

# **FIRDAUS' STRUGGLES FOR EMANCIPATION TOWARDS PATRIARCHAL CULTURE IN NAWAL EL SAADAWI'S *WOMAN AT POINT ZERO***

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## **ABSTRACT**

Novel can be tool to express feelings, thoughts, and emotions of a writer. Moreover, novel is used to reflect the society, reveal an issue, help readers deal with the issue, and make them inspire. That is what Nawal El Saadawi did in her masterpiece, *Woman at Point Zero*. She reflects the society and reveals an issue in Egypt which is patriarchal culture. As we know patriarchy holds to belief that men are superior to women. Thus, this paper aims to analyze the struggle of Firdaus for emancipation toward patriarchal culture. In order to achieve the analysis of the paper, feminism theory by Simone de Beauvoir is used. The objectives of this research are (1) to analyze the external conflicts that Firdaus faces toward patriarchal culture, and (2) to reveal the struggle of Firdaus for emancipation. The findings of the research show the conflicts Firdaus faces toward patriarchal culture. The first one is women's subordination consisting of: lack of educational opportunity for Firdaus and son preference. The second one is women's economic marginalization. The last one is violence consisting of: genital mutilation, forced marriage, and domestic violence. The struggles that Firdaus performs for emancipation toward patriarchal culture are being independent and being brave.

**Keywords :** Patriarchy, *Woman at Point Zero*, Struggle, Freedom, Emancipation